IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Previously Presented) A method of managing execution of query operations in a data processing system, comprising:

issuing, by a requesting entity, a request to perform a composite query operation defined by at least an initial query operation and a plurality of subsequent query operations to be executed against a data repository of the data processing system;

executing the initial query operation;

determining an operation status of the initial query operation;

selecting one of the plurality of subsequent query operations based on the operation status:

performing the selected subsequent query operation;

updating the operation status based on a result of the subsequent query operation:

managing execution of any remaining subsequent query operations on the basis of the updated operation status; and

upon determining the composite query operation has completed, returning a result of the composite query operation to the requesting entity.

- (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the determining and managing are performed by a composite query operations manager.
- (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the requesting entity is an application and wherein the determining and managing are performed by a composite query operations manager.
- 4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the initial and the subsequent query operation are SQL statements.

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5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein determining an operation status of the initial query operation comprises determining a number of items affected by the initial query operation.

- (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein determining an operation status of the initial query operation comprises determining whether the initial query operation completed successfully.
- 7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein determining an operation status of the initial query operation comprises determining, on the basis of a return code received upon completion of the initial query operation, whether the initial query operation completed successfully.
- 8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein managing execution of the subsequent query operation comprises:

executing the subsequent query operation only if the initial query operation did not complete successfully.

9. (Previously Presented) A method of managing execution of query operations in a data processing system, comprising:

issuing, by a requesting entity, a request to perform a composite query operation defined by at least an initial query operation and a plurality of subsequent query operations to be executed against a data repository of the data processing system;

providing selection logic defining a next query operation of the composite query operation to be executed;

providing a plurality of failure conditions for determining when a failure of the composite query operation occurs;

managing, using a composite query operations manager, execution of the initial query operation and the plurality of subsequent query operations on the basis of the selection logic and the plurality of failure conditions; and

upon determining the composite query operation has completed, returning a result of the composite query operation to the requesting entity.

- 10. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein at least one failure condition of the plurality of failure conditions indicates the initial query operation and an operation status of the initial query operation which indicates a failure of the composite query operation.
- 11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein each other failure condition of the plurality of failure conditions indicates a series of the initial query operation and at least one of the plurality of subsequent query operations, and an operation status of the at least one of the plurality of subsequent query operations which indicates a failure of the composite query operation.
- 12. The method of claim 9, wherein managing execution of the initial (Original) query operation and the plurality of subsequent query operations comprises:
 - a) executing the initial query operation:
 - b) determining an operation status of the initial query operation:
- c) determining, on the basis of the operation status and the plurality of failure conditions, whether failure of the composite query operation occurred; and
 - d) if no failure of the composite query operation occurred:
 - i) determining the next operation to be executed from the plurality of subsequent query operations using the selection logic;
 - ii) executing the next query operation:
 - iii) determining an operation status of the next query operation;
 - iv) determining, on the basis of the operation status and the plurality of failure conditions, whether failure of the composite query operation occurred: and
- v) repeating step d) for at least one other of the plurality of subsequent query operations.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein step c) and iv) comprise, if failure

completing execution of the composite query operation; and returning a failure code as completion status of the composite query operation indicating a failure condition from the plurality of failure conditions.

- 14. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein step b) and step iii) comprise determining whether the respective query operation completed successfully.
- 15. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein step b) and iii) comprise determining, on the basis of a return code received upon completion of the respective query operation, whether the respective query operation completed successfully.
- 16. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein step b) and step iii) comprise determining whether the respective query operation completed successfully and, if the respective query operation completed successfully:

completing execution of the composite query operation.

- 17. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the initial and each subsequent query operation is an SQL statement.
- 18 25 (Cancelled)
- 26. (Previously Presented) A computer readable storage medium containing a program which, when executed, performs a process of managing execution of query operations in a data processing system, the process comprising:

receiving, from a requesting entity, a request to perform a composite query operation defined by at least an initial query operation and a plurality of subsequent

query operations to be executed against a data repository of the data processing system:

executing the initial query operation;

determining an operation status of the initial query operation;

selecting one of the plurality of subsequent query operations based on the operation status;

performing the selected subsequent query operation;

updating the operation status based on a result of the subsequent query operation:

managing execution of any remaining subsequent query operations on the basis of the updated operation status; and

upon determining the composite query operation has completed, returning a result of the composite query operation to the requesting entity.

- 27. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 26, wherein the determining and managing are performed by a composite query operations manager.
- 28. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 26, wherein the initial and the subsequent query operation are SQL statements.
- 29. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 26, wherein determining an operation status of the initial query operation comprises determining a number of items affected by the initial query operation.
- 30. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 26, wherein determining an operation status of the initial query operation comprises determining whether the initial query operation completed successfully.

31. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 26, wherein determining an operation status of the initial query operation comprises determining, on the basis of a return code received upon completion of the initial query operation, whether the initial query operation completed successfully.

32. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 26, wherein managing execution of the subsequent query operation comprises:

executing the subsequent query operation only if the initial query operation did not complete successfully.

33. (Previously Presented) A computer readable storage medium containing a program which, when executed, performs a process of managing execution of query operations in a data processing system, the process comprising:

receiving, from a requesting entity, a request to perform a composite query operation defined by at least an initial query operation and a plurality of subsequent query operations to be executed against a data repository of the data processing system;

retrieving selection logic defining a next query operation of the composite query operation to be executed;

retrieving a plurality of failure conditions for determining when a failure of the composite query operation occurs;

managing, using a composite query operations manager, execution of the initial query operation and the plurality of subsequent query operations on the basis of the selection logic and the plurality of failure conditions; and

upon determining the composite query operation has completed, storing and returning a result of the composite query operation to the requesting entity.

34. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 33, wherein at least one failure condition of the plurality of failure conditions indicates the

initial query operation and an operation status of the initial query operation which indicates a failure of the composite query operation.

- 35. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 34, wherein each other failure condition of the plurality of failure conditions indicates a series of the initial query operation and at least one of the plurality of subsequent query operations, and an operation status of the at least one of the plurality of subsequent query operations which indicates a failure of the composite query operation.
- 36. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 33, wherein managing execution of the initial query operation and the plurality of subsequent query operations comprises:
 - a) executing the initial query operation:
 - b) determining an operation status of the initial query operation;
- c) determining, on the basis of the operation status and the plurality of failure conditions, whether failure of the composite query operation occurred; and
 - d) if no failure of the composite query operation occurred:
 - i) determining the next operation to be executed from the plurality of subsequent query operations using the selection logic;
 - ii) executing the next query operation;
 - iii) determining an operation status of the next query operation;
 - iv) determining, on the basis of the operation status and the plurality of failure conditions, whether failure of the composite query operation occurred; and
 - v) repeating step d) for at least one other of the plurality of subsequent query operations.
- 37. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 36, wherein step c) and iv) comprise, if failure occurred:
 - completing execution of the composite query operation; and

returning a failure code as completion status of the composite query operation

indicating a failure condition from the plurality of failure conditions.

- 38. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 36, wherein step b) and step iii) comprise determining whether the respective query operation completed successfully.
- 39. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 36, wherein step b) and iii) comprise determining, on the basis of a return code received upon completion of the respective query operation, whether the respective query operation completed successfully.
- 40. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 36, wherein step b) and step iii) comprise determining whether the respective query operation completed successfully and, if the respective query operation completed successfully:

completing execution of the composite query operation.

- 41. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 33, wherein the initial and each subsequent query operation is an SQL statement.
- 42-49. (Cancelled)
- (Previously Presented) A data processing system comprising:
 a data repository; and
- a composite query operations manager residing in memory for managing execution of query operations in the data processing system, the composite query operations manager being configured for:

receiving a request to perform a composite query operation defined by at least an initial query operation and a plurality of subsequent query operations to be executed against the data repository:

executing the initial guery operation;

determining an operation status of the initial query operation;

selecting one of the plurality of subsequent query operations based on the operation status:

performing the selected subsequent query operation:

updating the operation status based on a result of the subsequent query operation;

managing execution of any remaining subsequent query operations on the basis of the updated operation status; and

upon determining the composite query operation has completed, storing and returning a result of the composite query operation to the requesting entity.

51. (Previously Presented) A data processing system comprising:

a data repository: and

a composite query operations manager residing in memory for managing execution of query operations in the data processing system, the composite query operations manager being configured for:

receiving a request to perform a composite query operation defined by at least an initial query operation and a plurality of subsequent query operations to be executed against the data repository:

retrieving selection logic defining a next query operation of the composite query operation to be executed;

retrieving a plurality of failure conditions for determining when a failure of the composite query operation occurs;

managing execution of the initial query operation and the plurality of subsequent query operations on the basis of the selection logic and the plurality of failure conditions; and

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upon determining the composite query operation has completed, storing and returning a result of the composite query operation.

52 - 54. (Cancelled)